

# Newsletter 5, January 2015

## Q4I Approach Quality for Innovation in European Schools



**The Q4I model is based on seven Areas of change and four Areas of Development.**

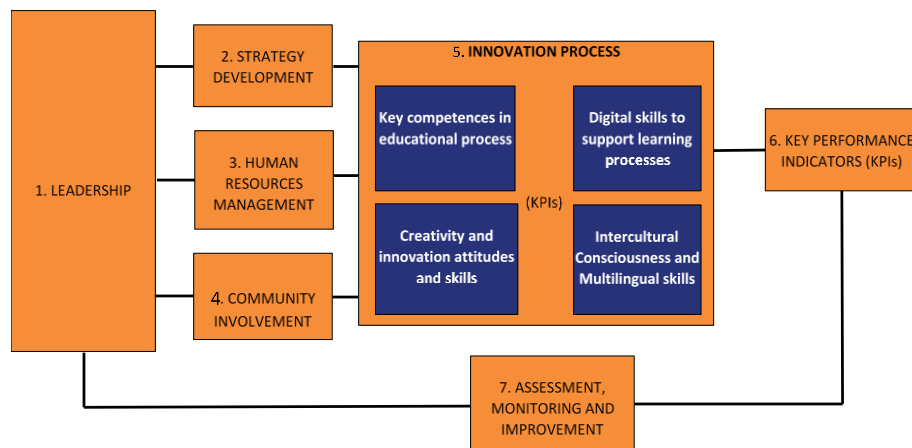
The Q4I **Areas of change** (corresponding to the macro criteria in the „EFQM quality terminology“) are:

1. Leadership
2. Strategy Development
3. Human Resources Management
4. Community involvement
5. Innovation Process
6. Key Performance Indicators
7. Assessment, Monitoring and Improvement

The Q4i **Areas of Development** are:

1. Key competences in educational process
2. Digital skills to support learning processes
3. Creativity and innovation attitudes and skills
4. Intercultural Consciousness and Multilingual skills

Areas and engines of change are interconnected within the model. The core of the model is the Innovation Process (where the four engines/areas are placed), enabled by Leadership through Strategy Development, Human Resources Management and Community Involvement, measured by Key Performance Indicators and monitored by Assessment, Monitoring and Improvement.



### Partners

- Generalitat Valenciana (Spain)
- ESHA (Netherlands)
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- ScienTer (Italy)
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- EURIDIT (Belgium)
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## Q4I Model

is based on a non-prescriptive spirit with a high degree of adaptability, for the following reasons:

- The focus is on results, not on procedures and tools.
- Organizations are encouraged to develop and demonstrate creative, adaptive, and flexible approaches for meeting improvement and innovation objectives.
- The support is intended to foster incremental and major ("breakthrough") improvements, as well as basic change through innovation.
- The selection of tools and techniques depends on the school organization type and size, organizational relationships, organization's stage of development, teachers and staff capabilities and responsibilities.
- A focus on common criteria, rather than on common procedures, fosters understanding, communication, sharing and integration, while supporting innovation and diversity in approaches.

The core of the model is represented by the Innovation Processes.

Innovation means making meaningful change to improve the school's programs, services, processes, and operations and to create new value for its stakeholders.

Within Q4I, this is based on the four Engines of Change/ Areas of Development:

- I. **Key competences in educational process** should become a pillar of school education achievements, and in particular the learning to learn competence should be a main focus of efforts. This first area is useful to set the basic learning outcomes that will give pupils tools to become active learners and have an active citizenship. The lifelong learning competencies are then involved in the development of other skills that, in turn, reinforce basic competencies.
- II. **Digital skills to support learning processes** should become an integral part of school education, considering the specific value of ICT in supporting the acquisition of key competences and learning/working processes. ICT can play a fundamental role on innovation, allowing a direct flow of information to the school head, teachers and administrative staff about the pertinence of used methods. On the other hand, ICT enormously increase transparencies of processes thus giving its contribution to raise the level of quality.
- III. **Creativity and innovation attitudes and skills** should be understood as a factor interacting in all areas, required for our personal fulfilment, fundamental in making innovation possible in each area, and essential for a social dimension that allows inter-cultural positive interactions.
- IV. **Intercultural Consciousness and Multilingual skills** - schools have a role to play in the development of an intercultural society equipping pupils with intercultural skills essentials to appreciate the richness of diversity of culture but also to raise their awareness of their own culture. Who is only familiar with his own culture does not really know it.



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[www.q4i-schools.eu](http://www.q4i-schools.eu)